Imperialism

By Lorraine Lapinski-Huvane
**Imperialism:** The policy by a stronger nation to attempt to create an empire by dominating weaker nations economically, politically, culturally, or militarily.
How Did Imperialism Begin?

A coaling station for steamships, Cape Town, South Africa
The Industrial Revolution

- The Industrial Revolution began in Great Britain in the mid-18th century
- Britain’s advantages
- The spread of industrialization
Economic Motives

Industrialized nations sought:
- Raw materials
- Natural resources
- A cheap labor supply
- New marketplaces for manufactured goods
Technological Advances

- The steam engine
- Better transportation
- Increased exploration
- Improvements in communication

The steamboat *Herald* (with mounted machine guns) on the Zambezi river in Africa

One of the first steam engines
The Maxim Gun

British troops fighting forces in Benin in 1897
Exploration

• David Livingstone
• Mapping the “Dark Continent”
Ideological Motives

- A desire to “civilize” non-Europeans also spurred the development of imperialism
- Social Darwinism

Darwin’s handwritten cover page for *The Origin of Species*

Herbert Spencer
"The White Man’s Burden"

By Rudyard Kipling

Take up the White Man’s burden—

Send forth the best ye breed—

Go, bind your sons to exile

To serve your captives’ need;

To wait, in heavy harness,

On fluttered folk and wild—

Your new-caught sullen peoples,

Half-devil and half-child.

Take up the White Man's burden—

In patience to abide,

To veil the threat of terror

And check the show of pride;

By open speech and simple,

An hundred times made plain,

To seek another's profit

And work another's gain.